



# RESPONSIBLE REFORM FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS DEMOCRATS.SENATE.GOV/REFORM

## **California: The Cost of Inaction**

### **California Families Suffer**

#### **California insurance premiums skyrocket**

- ✓ In 1997, family health insurance purchased through an employer cost \$5,143.
- ✓ In 2006, the same family health insurance cost \$11,493.
- ✓ By 2016, the same insurance is projected to cost \$25,682, a 123 percent increase over 2006, which will consume 41.2 percent of projected California median family income.

#### **More uninsured Californians**

- ✓ Every day, 2,190 Californians lose their health insurance.
- ✓ During the last two years, 12,096,000 Californians under age 65 went without health insurance for some time, which is 37.4 percent of the under 65 population.
- ✓ In 2007, 6,701,890 Californians under age 65 were uninsured for the entire year, which is 20.4 percent of the under 65 population.

#### **Californians pay higher premiums due to the uninsured**

- ✓ California families pay a “hidden tax” of \$1,400 on their health insurance premiums due to the unpaid costs of care for the uninsured.

#### **Fewer choices due to consolidated market**

- ✓ The two largest health insurance companies in California have a combined market share of 44 percent.

### **California Businesses Suffer**

#### **Fewer Californians have health coverage at work**

- ✓ In 2002, 58.4 percent of Californians under age 65 had employer-sponsored health insurance.
- ✓ In 2007, 54.7 percent of Californians had coverage through their employer.

### **California Economy Suffers**

#### **Health care spending climbs**

- ✓ In 2004, California spent \$166.2 billion on health care.
- ✓ This spending level represents \$4,638 per capita, and is 11 percent of the Gross State Product.

#### **Lost economic output of the uninsured due to shorter lives and poorer health**

- ✓ This year, the California economy will lose \$18.3 billion - \$36.7 billion due to the shorter lives and poorer health of the uninsured.